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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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SOURCE:

1. The Guayaquil Local Conference of the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE) began at 4:00 p.m. on 8 August 1953 at the home of Franklin PEREZ Castro. Enrique GIL Gilbert presided over the conference, which was attended by 16 cell delegations and members from the Guayas Provincial Committee. This preparatory session, which lasted until 7:00 p.m., was devoted primarily to agreement upon the agenda.
2. The inaugural session began at 9:00 p.m. the same date, with some 20 delegates present. A long review of the history of the PCE then ensued, followed by detailed examination and criticism of the activities of each of the more than 30 cells which should, theoretically, be operating in the city. It was revealed that only some 6 or 8 of these cells are actually operating at a level justifying the term "active" and that attendance in these cells is very sporadic. Long and heated discussion resulted when cell members indulged in exchanges of accusations. This session lasted until 12:30 a.m., without any definite progress other than the "airing of dirty linen."
3. On 9 August at 8:30 a.m. the next session was held, and the debates continued at much the same pace as the night before. Cesario VALVERDE, of the Jesus Menendez cell, was singled out for especially harsh criticism. It was charged that he had been saying that Franklin PEREZ Castro was "buying" supporters in order to get their votes and continue in the Provincial Committee. VALVERDE had specifically named Juan Pio NARVAEZ and Marco Tulio ORAMAS as blind followers of the "dictator" PEREZ, stating that NARVAEZ was being bought off by being given free meals at the PEREZ home. VALVERDE was also accused of having stated openly at a meeting of the Federacion Provincial de Trabajadores del Guayas (FPTG) that Soviet Russia ordered and carried out the assassination of Leon Trotsky and that the expulsion of Beriya was unjust. VALVERDE admitted these latter statements and defended himself by stating that he was not the only one that felt that way, that ORAMAS himself had opened the discussion in the FPTG and made similar statements. VALVERDE denied having named NARVAEZ and ORAMAS as lackeys of PEREZ, but stated that if they felt guilty there might be some truth to such rumors.

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4. Bernardino POVEDA and Abelardo SANTOS were then attacked, along with all those who belong to the Puerto cell. They were accused of having received 300 sucres from J. Federico "Tito" INTRIAGO to give him support in the elections of 1952, in return for the support of INTRIAGO in the matter of an agricultural colony which the members of the Puerto cell were forming and for which they needed land. POVEDA and SANTOS were accused of having pocketed the 300 sucres. They did nothing to support INTRIAGO and in turn got no support from him in regard to the land.
5. Julio Olmedo MUNOZ was then accused of having been campaigning to improve his political position behind the back of the PCE. He had reportedly told his clients that they need not pay their bills if they would vote for him to be a member of the Guayaquil Municipal Council. This heated session finally broke up at 2:00 p.m., having been devoted entirely to acrimonious debate.
6. Another session began at 4:00 p.m. with the reading of a report on Party finances and examination of the activities of the financial secretaries of the various Guayaquil cells, as well as of Alejandro IDROVO Rosales and Nelly CERECEDA de PEREZ Castro (responsible on the Provincial level for dues payment and the Second National Raffle of a House in Salinas), plus Elias MUNOZ Vicuna (responsible for sales of the newspaper El Pueblo). Only two cells, Joaquin Gallegos Lara and Pedro Saad, came through this inquisition with an essentially clean record.
7. Nomination and voting then took place for the Communist candidates for the Provincial Council, the elections to be held in November 1953. Alfonso QUIJANO Cobos won first place on this ticket, followed by Enrique GIL Gilbert. In the voting for candidates for the Municipal Council Marco Tulio ORAMAS and Julio Olmedo MUNOZ headed the ticket.
8. Documents on the Party line and organization were then read and analyzed, and it was announced that the resolutions made would be passed on to the Party rank and file in the near future.
9. Elections were then held for the membership of the Guayaquil Local Committee. Before the voting took place one delegate asked the presidium and delegatès to analyze the activities of each nominee, so that only those with clean records might occupy the important positions on the Local Committee. This was approved, with the result that many nominees were eliminated in further bitter debate. The Local Committee was finally elected with the following results:

Secretary-General	- Guillermo CANARTE Canarte
Secretaries	- Juan Pio NARVAEZ
	- Carlos BASTE Castillo
	- Lino MONTUFAR
	- Nelly CERECEDA de PEREZ Castro
Alternates	- Jorge MALDONADO Renella
	- Fausto PENAFIEL Murga
	- Ermel ALVAREZ Fiallo
	- Miguel HERRERA
	- Julio Olmedo MUNOZ
10. The Conference ended immediately after this election.

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